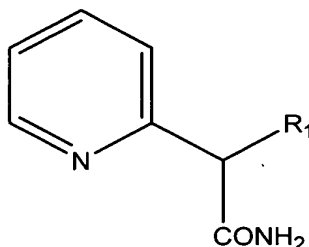


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 15 wherein R₁ is phenyl.
3. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 15 wherein said solvent comprises an alcohol, an alkyl alkanoate, a ketone, or an ether.
4. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 15 wherein said solvent is an alkyl alcohol having 1 to about 5 carbon atoms.
5. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 15 wherein said alkyl alcohol is isopropanol.
6. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 15 wherein said acid resolving agent is a derivative of D-tartaric acid.
7. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 15 wherein said acid resolving agent is a tartaric acid derivative having formula HO₂CCH[OC(O)R₃]CH[OC(O)R₃]CO₂H wherein each R₃, independently, is aryl having 6 to about 28 carbon atoms or aralkyl having 7 to about 28 carbon atoms.
8. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 7 wherein R₃ is aralkyl having 7 to about 28 carbon atoms.
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 15 further comprising reacting said *d-threo* acid salts with aqueous base to form said *d-threo* piperidine acetamide.
11. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 10 further comprising reacting said *d-threo* piperidine acetamide with an alcohol having 1 to about 5 carbon atoms in the presence of acid to form a *d-threo* piperidine acetate.

12. (**Currently Amended**) The process of claim 415 wherein said *d,l-threo* piperidyl acetamide stereoisomers are prepared by reacting a pyridine having formula:



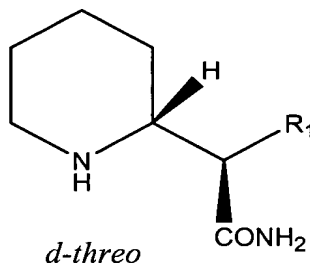
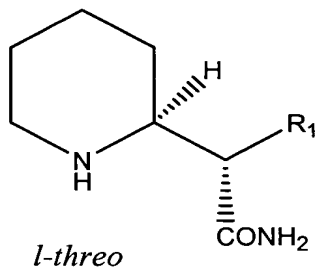
with hydrogen in an alkanoic acid having 1 to about 10 carbon atoms in the presence of a catalyst to provide a mixture of *threo* and *erythro* piperidyl stereoisomers; and contacting said *erythro* stereoisomers with organic base, thereby converting said *erythro* piperidyl stereoisomers to *threo* piperidyl stereoisomers.

13. (**Currently Amended**) The product of the process of claim 415.

14. (**Cancelled**)

15. (**Previously Presented**) A synthetic process for preferentially forming *d-threo* acid salts of *d-threo* piperidyl acetamide stereoisomers with respect to *l-threo* piperidyl acetamide stereoisomers comprising the steps of:

providing a mixture of said *d,l-threo* piperidyl acetamide stereoisomers having formulas:



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wherein R_1 is aryl having about 6 to about 28 carbon atoms;

reacting said stereoisomers with an acid resolving agent in an organic solvent, thereby

forming acid salts; and

isolating said acid salts.
